retransmission by the cable operators. Enforcement of the provisions of the Act rests with the authorized officer i.e. DMs, SDMs, Commissioner of Police and other officers as may be notified by the Central/State Governments. The issue of effective implementation of the provisions of the Cable Act has been taken up with the State Governments.

Providing news to common man through DD

†406. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan is not able to provide the news of incidents taking place throughout the country to common man at the earliest and in an efficient manner as compared to other private companies in electronic media;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon; and

(c) whether it is a fact that private sector companies have played prime role as compared to Doordarshan in providing news to the people on the recent severe earthquake in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Sir. It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that Doordarshan has been giving extensive coverage to the happenings in Gujarat right from the time the devasting earthquake rocked the State on 26.01.2001. The calamity and its aftermath, including the relief measures being taken by the Government and other agencies, are continuously and effectively being highlighted in the various programmes of Doordarshan and the news bulletins being telecast on its National Network, News Channel and the Regional Kendras.

Violation of provisions of Cinematograph Act, 1952

407. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Censors will go to the movies with you" appeared in the Indian Express, (New Delhi), dated 8th February, 2001;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has decided to hire detective agency at an estimated cost of Rs. 45 lakh per annum to keep a watch on movies that violate provisions of Cinematograph Act, 1952; and

(d) if so, the reasons for duplication of work when CBFC and its Advisory Committees at State levels are already working in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has been receiving reports of violation of the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, in various forms, in several States and Union Territories, thereby defeating the very purpose of certification. With a view to ensuring strict compliance of the provisions of the Act, CBFC has decided, on a test case basis, to hire a private detective agency, at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.00 lakhs for the current year, which will carry out regular checks in theatres in the four metropolitan cities, and report cases of violation to the concerned State authorities.

(d) The members of the Advisory Panels of CBFC are nominated primarily for assisting the Board in certification of films. However, it has been noticed that interpolations often take place after issue of CBFC certificate and do not ordinarily come to the notice of the CBFC or the Advisory Panels.

Plan to provide financial assistance to film industry

408. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate plans to provide financial assistance to film industry by which influence of underworld can be overcome;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any consensus has been evolved on the uniform entertainment tax throughout the country during recently held State Information Ministers' conference; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, alongwith other matters discussed in the meeting?